

Application/Control Number: 09/884,940

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1. (Previously Presented) A voice signature transaction system comprising a user terminal used by a user, a server used by a person providing products or services, and a data network connecting the user terminal and the server for conducting a product or service transaction, wherein

(A) said user terminal comprises a voice input unit for inputting voice data, and wherein

(B) said server comprises a sending/receiving unit, an allocating unit, a storage unit, and a checking unit, wherein

(B1) said sending/receiving unit

(B11) sends product and service transaction information to said user terminal when accessed by said user terminal,

(B12) receives order data including data on a product or a service and a user name, said product or service being specified on said user terminal receiving the transaction information and being specified from products and services included in the transaction information,

(B13) sends order ID request information to said user terminal, said order ID request information requesting a signature of an order ID of the order data via voice, said order ID being allocated by said allocating unit in response to the order data,

(B14) receives order ID voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the order ID request information,

(B15) sends name request information to said user terminal when the order ID included in the received order ID voice data matches the allocated order ID, said name request information requesting to input, via voice, a signature of a name of a user who has placed the order,

(B16) receives name voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the name request information, and

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(B17) sends acceptance information to said user terminal when the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data, said acceptance information indicating that the order data, the order ID voice data, and the name voice data have been accepted, wherein

(B2) said allocating unit allocates the order ID to the order data, wherein

(B3) said storage unit stores the order data as well as the order ID voice data and the name voice data that are related to the order data and stores the transaction information, and wherein

(B4) said checking unit

(B41) checks if the order ID included in the received order ID voice data matches the allocated order ID, and

(B42) checks if the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data,

wherein, in a case in which said user terminal denies payment of an order corresponding to the order ID at a later point in time, said server compares first voice data output from said user terminal at a point in time when denial of payment was made, with second voice data corresponding to at least one of the order ID voice data and the name voice data that is stored at said server and which was obtained from said user terminal when the order ID was made at a previous point in time, and wherein the user is determined to either have made or not have made the order corresponding to the order ID based on whether or not a voice recognition procedure performed by said server determines that the first voice data and the second voice data are from a same person.

2. (Previously Presented) The voice signature transaction system as defined by claim 1 wherein

(B5) the sending/receiving unit of said server further sends date/time request information to said user terminal when the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data, said date/time request information requesting to input, via voice, an order date/time, and

(B6) receives date/time voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the date/time request information, and

(B7) the storage unit of said server further stores the date/time voice data related to the order data.

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3. (Original) The voice signature transaction system as defined by claim 1
wherein

the checking unit of said server further checks if a voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches a voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data, and

the sending/receiving unit of said server further sends the acceptance information to said user terminal when the voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches the voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data.

4. (Original) The voice signature transaction system as defined by claim 2
wherein

the checking unit of said server further checks if a voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches a voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data, and

the sending/receiving unit of said server further sends the acceptance information to said user terminal when the voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches the voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data.

5. (Original) The voice signature transaction system as defined by claim 1
wherein

the sending/receiving unit of said server sends

the order ID request information or the name request information again when the checking unit did not find a match in the order IDs, in the names, or in the voiceprints, and

information indicating that the order data is not accepted when the checking unit did not find a match in the order IDs, in the names, or in the voiceprints after the order ID request information or the name request information is sent a specified number of times.

6. (Previously Presented) The voice signature transaction system as defined by claim 1, wherein said server further comprises an output unit for outputting a voice of the voice data stored in the storage unit.

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7. (Original) The voice signature transaction system as defined by claim 1, wherein said user terminal is a cellular phone and wherein said data network includes a wireless base station capable of making a wireless connection to the cellular phone.

8. (Previously Presented) A voice signature transaction method for use in a system comprising a user terminal used by a user, a server used by a person providing products or services, and a data network connecting the user terminal and the server for conducting a product or service transaction, said method comprising the steps by said server of:

- (a) sending product and service transaction information to said user terminal when accessed by said user terminal;
- (b) receiving order data including data on a product or a service and a user name, said product or service being specified on said user terminal receiving the transaction information and being specified from products and services included in the transaction information;
- (c) storing the received order data;
- (d) allocating an order ID to the order data in response to the order data;
- (e) sending order ID request information to said user terminal, said order ID request information requesting a signature of the order ID of the order data via voice;
- (f) receiving order ID voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the order ID request information;
- (g) storing the order ID voice data related to the order data;
- (h) checking if the received order ID voice data matches the allocated order ID;
- (i) sending name request information to said user terminal when the order ID included in the received order ID voice data matches the allocated order ID, said name request information requesting to input, via voice, a signature of a name of a user who has placed the order;
- (j) receiving name voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the name request information;
- (k) checking if the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data; and
- (l) sending acceptance information to said user terminal when the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data, said acceptance

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information indicating that the order data, the order ID voice data, and the name voice data have been accepted,

(m) wherein, in a case in which said user terminal denies payment of an order corresponding to the order ID at a later point in time,

(m1) first voice data inputted through said voice input unit at a time corresponding to when the payment of the order was denied, is compared to second voice data stored at said server corresponding to at least one of the order ID voice data and the name voice data obtained from said user terminal and which was obtained by said server from said user terminal when the order ID was made at a previous point in time, and

(m2) the user is determined to either have made or not have made the order corresponding to the order ID based on whether or not a voice recognition procedure performed by said server determines that the first voice data and the second voice data are from a same person.

9. (Previously Presented) The voice signature transaction method as defined by claim 8, further comprising the steps, before the acceptance information is sent said user terminal, by said server of:

(n) sending date/time request information to said user terminal when the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data, said date/time request information requesting to input, via voice, an order date/time;

(o) receiving date/time voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the date/time request information; and

(p) storing the date/time voice data related to the order data.

10. (Previously Presented) The voice signature transaction method as defined by claim 8, further comprising the steps by said server of:

(n) checking if a voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches a voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data, and

(o) sending the acceptance information to said user terminal when the voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches the voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data.

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11. (Previously Presented) The voice signature transaction method as defined by claim 9, further comprising the steps by said server of:

(q) checking if a voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches a voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data, and

(r) sending the acceptance information to said user terminal when the voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches the voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data.

12. (Previously Presented) The voice signature transaction method as defined by claim 8, further comprising the steps by said server of:

(n) sending the order ID request information or the name request information again when the checking unit did not find a match in the order IDs, in the names, or in the voiceprints, and

(o) sending information indicating that the order data is not accepted when the checking unit did not find a match in the order IDs, in the names, or in the voiceprints after the order ID request information or the name request information is sent a specified number of times.

13. (Original) The voice signature transaction method as defined by claim 8, further comprising the step by said server of outputting a voice of the stored voice data.

14. (Original) The voice signature transaction method as defined by claim 8, wherein said user terminal is a cellular phone and wherein said data network includes a wireless base station capable of making a wireless connection to the cellular phone.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium that has stored therewithin a computer-readable program for use in a system comprising a user terminal used by a user, a server used by a person providing products or services, and a data network connecting the user terminal and the server for conducting a product or service transaction, said program causing said server to perform the steps of:

 sending product and service transaction information to said user terminal when accessed by said user terminal;

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receiving order data including data on a product or a service and a user name, said product or service being specified on said user terminal receiving the transaction information and being specified from products and services included in the transaction information;

storing the received order data;

allocating an order ID to the order data in response to the order data;

sending order ID request information to said user terminal, said order ID request information requesting a signature of the order ID of the order data via voice;

receiving order ID voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the order ID request information;

storing the order ID voice data related to the order data;

checking if the received order ID voice data matches the allocated order ID;

sending name request information to said user terminal when the order ID included in the received order ID voice data matches the allocated order ID, said name request information requesting to input, via voice, a signature of a name of a user who has placed the order;

receiving name voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the name request information;

checking if the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data; and

sending acceptance information to said user terminal when the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data, said acceptance information indicating that the order data, the order ID voice data, and the name voice data have been accepted,

wherein, in a case in which said user terminal denies payment of an order corresponding to the order ID at a later point in time, said server compares first voice data output from said user terminal at a point in time when denial of payment was made with second voice data corresponding to at least one of the order ID voice data and the name voice data that is stored at said server and which was obtained from said user terminal when the order ID was made at a previous point in time, and wherein the user is determined to either have made or not have made the order corresponding to the order ID based on whether or not a voice recognition procedure performed by said server determines that the first voice data and the second voice data are from a same person.

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16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as defined by claim 15, wherein, before the acceptance information is sent said user terminal, said program further causes said server to perform the steps of:

sending date/time request information to said user terminal when the name included in the received name voice data matches the name included in the order data, said date/time request information requesting to input, via voice, an order date/time;

receiving date/time voice data that is input, via voice, on said user terminal receiving the date/time request information; and

storing the date/time voice data related to the order data.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as defined by claim 15, wherein said program further causes said server to perform the steps of:

checking if a voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches a voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data, and

sending the acceptance information to said user terminal when the voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches the voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as defined by claim 16, wherein said program further causes said server to perform the steps of:

checking if a voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches a voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data, and

sending the acceptance information to said user terminal when the voiceprint of the received order ID voice data matches the voiceprint of the received name voice data and/or date/time voice data.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as defined by claim 15, wherein said program further causes said server to perform the steps of:

sending the order ID request information or the name request information again when the checking unit did not find a match in the order IDs, in the names, or in the voiceprints, and

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sending information indicating that the order data is not accepted when the checking unit did not find a match in the order IDs, in the names, or in the voiceprints after the order ID request information or the name request information is sent a specified number of times.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as defined by claim 15, wherein said program further causes said server to output a voice of the stored voice data.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as defined by claim 15, wherein said user terminal is a cellular phone and wherein said data network includes a wireless base station capable of making a wireless connection to the cellular phone.

22. (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) The voice signature transaction method system as defined in claim 1, wherein, in the case in which said user denies payment of the order corresponding to the order ID at the later point in time, said server requests a voice recognition specialist to compare the first voice data and the second voice data, and if the first voice data and the second voice data match as determined by the voice recognition specialist, the user is requested by said server to pay for the order.

24. (New) The voice signature transaction system as defined in claim 23, wherein the voice recognition specialist is a human being.

25. (New) The voice signature transaction system as defined in claim 2, wherein a combination of said date/time voice data, said order ID voice data, and said name voice data are stored together in said storage unit of said server as signature data corresponding to said order ID.

26. (New) The voice signature transaction method as defined in claim 10, wherein a combination of said date/time voice data, said order ID voice data, and said name voice data are stored together in said storage unit of said server as signature data corresponding to said order ID.

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22. The computer-readable medium carrying thereon said program as
defined in claim 15

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